

13P/WCB
420 ES/DV/ATP

DATE 21 FEBRUARY 1958

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

TO DIRECTOR

FROM []

ACTION NFA 7

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ASSESSMENT IRAQ JORDAN UNION

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TO PRITY DIR
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NOFORN CONTINUED CONTROL NJJ 127. PADA 14-19 FEB 58 DOI JAN, FEB 58

SOURCE (PARA 1 AND 3 NABLUS BUSINESSMAN) B (CONTENT) 3. PARA 2
COMPETENT AMERICAN OBSERVER WITH EXTENSIVE CONTACTS JERU BUSINESS-
MEN AND OFFICIALS (B) CONTENT 2. PARA 4 JORDANIAN BUSINESSMAN
AND CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF HAJJ AMIN HUSAYNI (C) FROM HUSAYNI. CONTENT 3.

1. 14 FEB RESIDENTS NABLUS REFUSED CELEBRATE UNION IRAQ
JORDAN. MUNICIPAL GOVT REQUESTED ARMY AND ARMY BAND START CELEBRA-
TIONS AND RESIDENTS ORDERED DISPLAY FLAGS AND DECORATE SHOPS AND
HOMES. WHEN PEOPLE LEARNED PRES JAMAL ABDAL NASR SENT CABLE KING
FAYSAL CONGRATULATING HIM ON UNION AND WHEN NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED
ARTICLES GOVT SALARIES WOULD BE RAISED, VISAS BETWEEN COUNTRIES
NOT REQUIRED AND MERCHANTS COULD IMPORT WITHOUT CUSTOMS, PEOPLE
REALIZED UNION WOULD BENEFIT NABLUS. AS RESULT 60 PERCENT PEOPLE
NABLUS FAVOR UNION BUT SCEPTICAL UNTIL SEE RESULTS.

2. MAJORITY PEOPLE JERU DISTRICT VIEW IRAQ JORDAN UNION
FAVORABLY (HOWEVER CELEBRATIONS NOT VERY LARGE WEEKEND 15 FEB.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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PEOPLE VIEW UNION WITH IRAQ STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION AND PARTICULAR ENCOURAGED POSSIBLE ECONOMIC AND MILITARY BENIFITS BUT SOME FEEL UNION WITH SYRIA AND EGYPT MORE PRACTICAL BECAUSE CLOSER EMOTIONAL, ECONOMIC, AND POLITICAL TIES WITH CAIRO AND DAMA THAN BAGH. HIGH RANKING JORDAN ARMY OFFICERS APPEAR VERY PLEASED WITH UNION IRAQ AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY CELEBRATED ANNOUNCEMENT.

3. ANNOUNCEMENT UAR RECEIVED FAVORABLE RESPONSE NABLUS (SEE NJJ-129). ABSOLUTE MAJORITY UAR BANK VIEWED UNION EGYPT AND SYRIA FAVORABLY.

4. IN JANUARY 58 EX MUFTI LAJI AMIN HUSAYNI MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS (A. PRINCIPAL EFFORT UAR TO BE DIRECTED CREATING FAVORABLE CONDITIONS ATTACKING ISRAEL WHICH SHOULD TAKE PLACE NO LATER THAN END 58; BOTH EGYPT AND SYRIA AGREED WITH USSR FOR DESTRUCTION ISRAEL AFTER SOVIETS COMPLETED READING SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN ARMS. USSR PRESENTLY TRAINING IN RUSSIA, SOVIET TROOPS FOR POSSIBLE USE WAR WITH ISRAEL IN CASE USG OR UK ATTEMPT ASSIST ISRAEL. B. UAR STUDYING WHAT IRAQI AND JORDANIAN REACTION TO

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TO

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CITE

WAR WITH ISRAEL WILL BE. CALL WILL BE MADE ALL ARABS JOIN WAR AND ANY GOVT REFUSING WOULD BE DESTROYED. C. PALESTINE PART GREATER SYRIA AND MUST JOIN UAR HUSAYNI SENT LETTER PRES NASR, NASR PROMISED BRING PALESTINE INTO UNION AT SOME UNDETERMINED DATE.

5. HAJJ AMIN REQUESTED ALL HIS "AGENTS" COME CAIRO DURING WEEK 23 FEB FOR CONFERENCE AND URGE UNION OF PALESTINE WITH UAR. FIELD COMMENT (BELIEVE INITIAL FAVORABLE REACTION UNION IRAQ JORDAN STRONG ENOUGH WEST BANK TO OFFSET TROUBLE HERE BY ANY ANNOUNCEMENT BY HAJJ AMIN REFORMING PALESTINE GOVT AND ITS UNION WITH UAR. SUCH RUMORED ANNOUNCEMENT PRIOR 14 FEBRUARY DID RECEIVE FAVORABLE COMMENT. DISSEM. CONSULATE 21 FEB 58 1500Z.

6. SUPDATA (WASH ONLY) PARA 1 AND 3 [] PARA 2 [] WHO VISITED HUSAYNI IN CAIRO. REF DIR 08834 (OUT 06526). END OF MESSAGE
C/S Comment: * United Arab Republic
** Requested an assessment of the West Bank reaction to the UAR and the Iraq-Jordan federation.

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